

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4753
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
HEALTH SERVICES IN NE/ BACKWARD AREAS
Barman Shri Ranen;Gamang Shri Giridhar

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to provide proper health services in the North-Eastern States, tribal areas, hilly areas and backward areas of the country ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of programmes to be implemented and the targets fixed by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), which has been launched on 12th April 2005, is a national effort at ensuring effective healthcare through a range of interventions at individual, household, community, and most critically at the health system levels. The goal of the Mission is to improve the availability of and access to quality healthcare by people, specially those residing in rural areas including the poor, women and children. The Mission adopts asynergistic approach by relating health to determinants of good health i.e nutrition, sanitation, hygiene and safe drinking water.

The Mission seeks to provide effective healthcare to the poor, the vulnerable and to marginalized section of the society throughout the country with a special focus in 18 underserved states which also include 8 North Eastern states viz: Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh .

The Plan of action includes increasing public expenditure on health to 2-3% of GDP from the current level of 0.9%, reducing regional imbalance in health infrastructure, optimization of health manpower, decentralization and district management of health programmes, community participation and ownership of assets, induction of management and financial personnel into district health system, integration of organizational structures and pooling of resources, and operationalizing community health centers into functional hospitals meeting Indian Public Health Standards in each Block of the country.